Acknowledgement

INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch would like to express their appreciation and to thank their trusted private partner SICPA for their generous financial and technical contributions which made possible the organization of train-the-trainer sessions in the European and Asian INTERPOL statutory regions.

SICPA’s invaluable expertise and know-how is much appreciated and reached participants from 20 INTERPOL member countries in four training initiatives that took place in Skopje (July 2015), Ankara (April 2016), Bangkok (March 2017) and Tashkent (September 2017).

In particular, INTERPOL would like to acknowledge the active support and commitment of the following partners which provided excellent organization and dedication to the police profession throughout the training events:

- INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Skopje and the Forensic Department within the Ministry of the Interior of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia;
- INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Ankara and the Turkish International Academy Against Drugs and Organized Crimes (TADOC);
- INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Bangkok;
- INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Tashkent;
- INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Beirut.

We recognize that multi-cultural exchange of views and expertise is essential in police training. Therefore, INTERPOL and SICPA greatly appreciate the contribution of over 100 border control officers, immigration officials, investigators, forensic document examiners from Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Cyprus, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Iran, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Lebanon, Myanmar, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

Additionally, INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch would like to extend a special thank you to: FRONTEX, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, the United States Secret Service and the United States Department of State – Diplomatic Security Service for the support provided during the different above mentioned activities.
INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch

INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch provides forensic support and operational assistance through its standardized training programmes and reference materials in the area of counterfeit currency and security documents. These training courses are delivered worldwide to forensic document examiners, border control officers, immigration officials and prosecutors, and they complement the forensic, operational and technical support that INTERPOL provides in this domain.

It is essential to equip the law enforcement community and other relevant parties – such as financial institutions – with the knowledge, skills and best practices to successfully detect and investigate travel and identity document fraud. Targeting a mixed audience of law enforcement officers has proved efficient, especially in police training, as it fosters personal contacts and common grounds of institutional understanding.

INTERPOL has implemented a number of training courses and seminars, often in partnership with the private sector and other international organizations, which combine to form a comprehensive capacity building programme. These initiatives proved to be effective in reducing the threat of identify related crimes and supporting efforts in preventing cross-border crimes worldwide. The ultimate goal is to enhance knowledge and encourage innovation, in order to turn training into operational practice.

Identity and travel document fraud

The fraudulent use of identity and travel documents presents a threat to the security of countries and their citizens, the economy, and global commerce, as it facilitates a wide range of crimes and terrorism. INTERPOL provides a number of specialized tools for the law enforcement community to help detect fraudulent documents, and works with partners in different sectors to improve the level of security of official documents. Both false and genuine documents are used to perpetrate a variety of frauds, which can be classified in the following sub-categories:

False documents

Counterfeit – a document that constitutes an unauthorized reproduction of a genuine document. These documents are not legitimately issued by the recognized authority nor are legitimately manufactured.

Forgery – typically based on a genuine document, a part of which has been fraudulently substituted, altered or added to give misleading information about the person that presents it.

Pseudo document – a document produced with no authority and which is not officially recognized. They can occur in various forms and may have the physical appearance of a passport on an ID card.
Genuine documents

Fraudulently obtained genuine document – an authentic identity or travel document obtained through deception by: submission of either false or counterfeit documents, cooperation of a corrupt official or impersonation of the rightful holder of a genuine document.

Misuse of a genuine document through deception by a person assuming identity - commonly known as an imposter. Someone who knowingly misrepresents him or herself by using someone else’s identity or travel document. Often, the biographical details and photograph resemble the imposter, helping him or her to pass as the rightful bearer.

INTERPOL Travel and ID Document Reference Centre

Document verification and authentication are crucial in ensuring that the documents presented are both genuine and presented by the rightful holder. These documents are not only used for travel, but in any kind of fraud where identity is an issue. With many thousands of different identity and travel documents in existence it can be a challenging task to differentiate between false and genuine document.

Through its secure global police communications system databases INTERPOL provides a number of tools to assist the law enforcement community in identifying counterfeit, forged and fraudulent identity and travel documents. INTERPOL assists member countries in allowing instant access to its databases and reference libraries by first-line checks and second-line inspection at airports, sea ports and border crossings as well as forensic laboratories.

**Stolen and Lost Travel Documents Database (SLTD)** - this is INTERPOL's unique database of lost/stolen, stolen blank and revoked travel documents, containing nearly 82 million records reported by 174 INTERPOL member countries.

**Dial-Doc Digital INTERPOL Alert Library-Document** - is a joint G8-INTERPOL initiative, which allows countries to share at global level alerts produced nationally on newly detected forms of document counterfeiting and is containing about 2,500 alerts from more than 50 member countries.

**EdisonTD - Electronic Documentation and Information System** - On investigation Networks with information on Travel Documents. This reference tool contains images of approximately 4,500 genuine travel and identity documents from 206 countries and organizations.

**DISCS - Document Information System for Civil Status** - is an on-line information system that consist of an electronic database for civil status documents and as of today it contains around 2,500 types of certificates to include birth, marriage, death, identity, citizenship, etc.
Train-the-trainer programme

INTERPOL and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) have developed a train-the-trainer programme and accompanying guide entitled *Introduction to Security Document Examination*.

The goal is to develop the knowledge, skills and abilities of the target audience on how to recognize illegally created security documents or the fraudulent use of genuine security documents. In addition, the training programme aims to increase communication and intelligence sharing among border and immigration control officers, forensic personnel, prosecutors, the judiciary and other relevant parties. Comprising several modules and practical exercises, the programme covers topics such as personalization and printing techniques, security features, types of document fraud, international cooperation and INTERPOL’s specialized databases including Edison TD, Dial-Doc and DISCS.

Since 2011, INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch has trained more than 1,000 participants in all INTERPOL’s statutory regions (Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe), who have in turn been shared their newly acquired skills and knowledge with colleagues in their home countries.

In 2015, we started partnering with and attracting funds from private companies in the security printing and forensic equipment industry, with the aim of conducting several regional train-the-trainer courses for INTERPOL’s member countries. This approach has made possible the training of more participants from those regions and backgrounds that are lacking in resources. The number of officials being trained has tripled over a five year period, while the number of training courses delivered has increased from three per year to ten per year.
Training activities with SICPA

SICPA collaborates regularly with INTERPOL in providing training and expertise to member countries in the detection and prevention of counterfeiting in relation to currency, travel and identity documents. The security ink technology company is a member of the INTERPOL Project S-Print, an international monitoring system for the security printing industry and its suppliers to prevent the illegal use of security-dedicated materials.

Founded in 1927 and headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland, SICPA is a privately owned company providing secured identification, traceability and authentication solutions and services. Standards defined by SICPA in relation to print quality and the chemical and physical resistance of inks for printed banknotes which were endorsed by INTERPOL’s 5th International Counterfeit Currency Conference in 1969 and adopted as norms by banknote printers worldwide, are still valid today.

Since 2015, private high security ink company SICPA financially and technically supported a number of five regional train-the-trainer courses organized and delivered by INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Branch. Expert presentations on operational activities, border management tools, case studies and research on document security were provided by SICPA.

- Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (1-3 July 2015)
- Ankara, Turkey (12-14 April 2016)
- Bangkok, Thailand (22-24 March 2017)
- Tashkent, Uzbekistan (27-29 September 2017)
- Beirut, Lebanon (09-11 October 2018)

The specific training components focus on enhancing regional expertise in the detection of fraudulent travel documents and, so far, benefitted a number of 100 participants from police, immigration, customs and border security agencies, forensic document laboratories and criminal investigation units in 20 INTERPOL member countries. Much value to the training was added through the involvement of the training participants, both through formal presentations on the specific country situation in each represented country and through active participation.

During the three-day training, several modules and practical exercises are being presented:

- Basics in security documents examination
- Security printing techniques and personalization techniques
- Security features on unfamiliar security documents
- Classification of security features with reference to glossaries
- Safety features in the security paper
- Equipment for security documents examination (express and advanced document verification)
- Machine-readable travel documents
- Passport production process
- Automatic verification of travel documents with passport readers
- Document authenticity verification device
- Facial identification process
- E-learning modules on security document examination and impostors
- International cooperation, databases (SLTD, EDISON TD, DISCS, Dial-Doc) and reference materials
- Pre and post-test as well as practice with reference materials (IDs & Passports specimens) and equipment (combined magnifiers, document verification system)
The practical exercises are conducted with INTERPOL reference materials (many specimens of genuine security documents: identity documents and passports, genuine and counterfeit currency) and appropriate equipment from INTERPOL and SICPA (combined magnifiers, Eye-D document verification system, document authenticity verification device, compact devices, Regula 4205D). Interactive workshops allow participants to familiarize with and analyse these passports under different light sources (UV 365, 312 and 254 nm, transmitted, retro reflective, infra-red) in order to identify the different type of security elements as well as printing and personalization technics contained in security documents.

During the third joint INTERPOL-SICPA training initiative, one of the workshops focused on entry and exit stamps, evaluating their value in border control and investigative environments. SICPA representatives demonstrated EXTENS® SmartStamp, machine-readable travel stamp can contain both static and dynamic data about travellers and their trips.
This workshop also provided an opportunity to discuss a broader issue of the use and analysis of entry and exit stamps, with an evident absence of a central depository of stamp impressions and inks used. cooperation between all stakeholder groups that play key roles in assuring document security in all participating countries.

**Participants’ feedback**

Our stakeholders from the Western Balkan, Southeast and Central Asian regions have appreciated the training and were pleased to increase their knowledge and share expertise on security document examination and detecting fraudulent documents. Majority of trainees rated the training as either “excellent” or “very good”.

The comparison of results from pre-training and post-training questionnaires indicate that the course participants improved their skills to identify fraudulent documents by clear understanding between genuine security features, printing and personalization techniques and those on forged and counterfeit travel documents.

particularly, participants appreciate the effectiveness of trainers and extent to which the course objectives were achieved, to include the reliable information delivered, the quality of visual aids, reference materials and handouts supplied, and the overall usefulness of course content. Additionally, participants are very pleased about the organization of the event, from the prompt assistance of INTERPOL staff to the venues and its facilities.
**Evaluation forms from Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia training (01-03 July 2015)**

After the post-training questionnaires have been completed and returned to the trainers, participants were asked to fill in a survey and rate their overall experience during the training. Participants mark several five-level (excellent, very good, good, fair and poor) items such as the extent to which the course objectives were achieved, the usefulness of the content, quality of visual aid and handouts, effectiveness of trainers, etc. The results of the evaluations after the training in Skopje are presented in Chart 1.

![Chart 1. Overall participant satisfaction rate at the regional training in Skopje (July 2015)](chart1.png)

Participants were also asked to rate the extent to which they learned from the train-the-trainer programme. Results are presented in Chart 2 below.

![Chart 2. Overall satisfaction rate of participants concerning their learning experience](chart2.png)
Post-training evaluation questionnaires from Ankara, Turkey (12-14 April 2016)

At the end of each training, participants were asked to fill in a post-training questionnaire to check their enhanced knowledge and skills. According to the results, there has been a significant increase in their technical knowledge in all cases. The results are presented in Chart 3 and Chart 4.

![Chart 3: Average scores per INTERPOL member country](image1)

**Chart 3. Total average scores by INTERPOL member country at the training in Ankara (April 2016)**

![Chart 4: Average scores per question and per country](image2)

**Chart 4. Total average scores per question and per INTERPOL member country in Ankara (April 2016)**

- Question 1 – Security features
- Question 2 – Light sources
- Question 3 – Printing techniques
- Question 4 and 5 – Security elements printed with different printing techniques
- Question 6 – Types of watermarks
Evaluation forms from Ankara training (12-14 April 2016)

After the post-training questionnaires have been completed and returned to the trainers, participants were asked to fill in a survey and rate their overall experience during the training. Participants mark several five-level (excellent, very good, good, fair and poor) items such as the extent to which the course objectives were achieved, the usefulness of the content, quality of visual aid and handouts, effectiveness of trainers, etc. The results of the evaluations after the training in Ankara are presented in Chart 5.

Chart 5. Overall participant satisfaction rate at the regional training in Ankara, Turkey (April 2016)

Chart 6 shows that participants from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran and Turkey were very satisfied (36%) and extremely satisfied (29%) with their learning after the three-day training in Ankara. A significant 29% have marked 4 out of 6, where 1 is learned nothing and 6 is learned a lot.

Chart 6. Overall satisfaction rate of participants regarding their learning from the training in Ankara (April 2016)
Post-training evaluation questionnaires from Bangkok, Thailand (22-24 March 2017)

At the end of each training, participants were asked to fill in a post-training questionnaire to check their enhanced knowledge and skills. According to the results, there has been a significant increase in their technical knowledge in all cases. The results are presented in Chart 7 and Chart 8.

- Q. 1 – Security features detected under UV
- Q. 2 – Detection of first level security features
- Q. 3 – Security features under IR light
- Q. 4 – ICAO standards
- Q. 5 – Detection of first level security features
- Q. 6 – Fraudulent documents
- Q. 7 – Security features
- Q. 8 – INTERPOL databases
- Q. 9 – Fraudulent documents
- Q. 10 – Fraudulent documents
Evaluation forms from Bangkok, Thailand (22-24 March 2017)

After the post-training questionnaires have been completed and returned to the trainers, participants were asked to fill in a survey and rate their overall experience during the training. Participants mark several five-level (excellent, very good, good, fair and poor) items such as the extent to which the course objectives were achieved, the usefulness of the content, quality of visual aid and handouts, effectiveness of trainers, etc. The results of the evaluations after the training in Bangkok are presented in Chart 9. (Contribution from 17 participants out of 17)

![Chart 9](chart9.png)

*Chart 9. Overall participant satisfaction rate at the regional training in Bangkok (March 2017)*

Participants were also asked to rate the extent to which they learned from the train-the-trainer programme. Results are presented in Chart 10 below.

![Chart 10](chart10.png)

*Chart 10. Overall satisfaction rate of participants regarding their learning from the course in Bangkok (March 2017)*
Post-training evaluation questionnaires from Tashkent, Uzbekistan (27-29 September 2017)

At the end of each training, participants were asked to fill in a post-training questionnaire to check their enhanced knowledge and skills. According to the results, there has been a significant increase in their technical knowledge in all cases. The results are presented in Chart 11 and Chart 12.

**Chart 11. Total average scores by INTERPOL member country in Tashkent (September 2017)**

**Chart 12. Total average scores per question and per INTERPOL member country in Tashkent (September 2017)**

- Q. 1 – Security features detected under UV
- Q. 2 – Detection of first level security features
- Q. 3 – Security features under IR light
- Q. 4 – ICAO standards
- Q. 5 – Detection of first level security features
- Q. 6 – Fraudulent documents
- Q. 7 – Security features
- Q. 8 – INTERPOL databases
- Q. 9 – Fraudulent documents
- Q. 10 – Fraudulent documents
After the post-training questionnaires have been completed and returned to the trainers, participants were asked to fill in a survey and rate their overall experience during the training. Participants mark several five-level (excellent, very good, good, fair and poor) items such as the extent to which the course objectives were achieved, the usefulness of the content, quality of visual aid and handouts, effectiveness of trainers, etc. The results of the evaluations after the training in Tashkent are presented in Chart 13. (Contribution from 22 participants out of 22)

![Chart 13. Overall participant satisfaction rate at the regional training in Tashkent (September 2017)](chart13)

Participants were also asked to rate the extent to which they learned from the train-the-trainer programme. Results are presented in Chart 14 below.

![Chart 14. Overall satisfaction rate of participants concerning their learning experience](chart14)
Post-training evaluation questionnaires from Beirut, Lebanon (09-11 October 2018)

At the end of each training, participants were asked to fill in a post-training questionnaire to check their enhanced knowledge and skills. According to the results, there has been a significant increase in their technical knowledge in all cases. The results are presented in Chart 15 and Chart 16.

![Chart 15. Total average scores by INTERPOL member country in Beirut (October 2018)](chart15)

![Chart 16. Total average scores per question and per INTERPOL member country in Beirut (October 2018)](chart16)
Evaluation forms from Beirut – Lebanon (09-11 October 2018)

After the post-training questionnaires have been completed and returned to the trainers, participants were asked to fill in a survey and rate their overall experience during the training. Participants mark several five-level (excellent, very good, good, fair and poor) items such as the extent to which the course objectives were achieved, the usefulness of the content, quality of visual aid and handouts, effectiveness of trainers, etc. The results of the evaluations after the training in Beirut are presented in Chart 17. (Contribution from 17 participants out of 19)

![Chart 17](chart17.png)

*Chart 17. Overall participant satisfaction rate at the regional training in Beirut (October 2017)*

Participants were also asked to rate the extent to which they learned from the train-the-trainer programme. Results are presented in Chart 18 below.

![Chart 18](chart18.png)

*Chart 18. Overall satisfaction rate of participants regarding their learning from the training in Beirut (October 2017)*
Annex 1. Media release of 02 July 2015

Forensic document examination focus of Balkans INTERPOL training

SKOPJE, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Enhancing regional expertise in detecting counterfeit security documents is the focus of a train-the-trainer course in Skopje on security document examination delivered by INTERPOL’s Counterfeit and Security Documents Branch (CSDB).

Some 30 border and immigration officials and forensic document examiners from seven Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) are attending the three-day (1 – 3 July) course.

“This INTERPOL course addresses cross border crimes that are facilitated by counterfeit security documents. There is a real need for the continuous professional development and assessment of competencies in the area of security document examination,” said Marjan Nakovski, Assistant Director of the Criminal Police at the Ministry of the Interior in Skopje.

Jim Anderson, Assistant Director of INTERPOL’s Anti-Corruption and Financial Crimes unit, which includes CSDB, said: “Increasing sophistication in the quality of counterfeit and fraudulent travel documents poses a serious threat to security, at national and international level. Enhancing the capacity of border and immigration officials, and forensic document examiners, is therefore integral to seeking solutions to this global problem.”


Turkey hosts INTERPOL training on fake document detection

ANKARA, Turkey – Enhancing border security through the detection of fake documents was the focus of an INTERPOL training course held in Turkey this week.

With fraudulent travel documents often used by terrorists and criminals—especially human traffickers and people smugglers—to evade detection, the three-day (12-14 April) course included practical exercises to develop the technical skills needed to spot forged passports and other IDs.

Participants were also updated on INTERPOL’s support to member countries in identifying and interdicting foreign terrorist fighters travelling to and from conflict zones, including through the use of its wanted persons and Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) databases.

Containing more than 57 million records from 172 countries, the SLTD database also holds details of some 250,000 stolen and lost Syrian and Iraqi passports, of which more than 190,000 were reported stolen as blank.

Among those is the Syrian passport found at the Stade de France following the attempted suicide bombing during the November 2015 Paris attacks, which had been recorded in the SLTD database in April 2014 as part of a batch of 1,452 stolen blank passports.

“Ensuring that frontline officers, such as border and immigration officials, and forensic document examiners have the skills and access to the information they need is essential to prevent the fraudulent use of travel documents which is often linked to more serious crimes,” said Rafet Ufuk Önder, Head of the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Ankara.

The SLTD database is just one platform available to help law enforcement officials identify if a person is travelling on a fake document; other capabilities include Dial-Doc (Digital INTERPOL Alert Library – Document).

Launched by INTERPOL and the G8 in 2013, Dial-Doc makes it easy for officials in any of INTERPOL’s 190 member countries to check if a travel document is fake, through comparison with images of recently detected counterfeit documents provided by countries worldwide.

In addition, the Edison database, also accessible through INTERPOL’s secure global communications network, allows frontline officers to access detailed examples of genuine travel documents, in order to detect fakes.

Participants from border control, immigration, forensic document laboratories, financial and organized crime units from four countries – Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran and Turkey – took part in the training delivered by INTERPOL’s Counterfeit and Security Documents (CCSD) Branch, supported by the terrorist networks and vulnerable communities units.

Annex 3. Media release of 23 March 2017

INTERPOL training on fake document detection to boost security in Southeast Asia

BANGKOK, Thailand – Detecting fake or fraudulent travel documents to enhance border security is the focus of an INTERPOL training course in Thailand.

The three-day (22-24 March) course aims to equip law enforcement officers from the region with the skills to keep their countries safe by identifying individuals attempting to travel using forged documents. Participants from police, immigration, customs and border security agencies, forensic document laboratories and criminal investigation units are taking part in classroom and practical exercises on the different methods used by criminals to alter various travel and identity documents.

With fraudulent documents often used by criminals attempting to cross national borders undetected, the training course organized by INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents unit enables participants to understand document printing techniques, security features, ink analysis and examination methods.

“Counterfeit currency and travel documents are challenges that require urgent effective solutions. These often feed other serious crimes and major threats which not only pose risks to national security, but also can greatly affect security on regional and global levels,” said Major General Choochat Thareechat, Commander of the Thai Immigration Bureau’s Investigation Division.

Participants were also updated on INTERPOL’s support to member countries in identifying and interdicting individuals attempting to travel with fraudulent documents, including through the use of its Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database and Dial-Doc platform.
Containing more than 72 million records from 175 countries, the SLTD database allows officers at border points to directly query travelers’ documents to determine if they have been reported as lost or stolen. Dial-Doc allows officials in any of INTERPOL’s 190 member countries to check if a travel document is fake through comparison with images of recently detected counterfeit documents provided by countries worldwide.

Expert presentations on operational activities, border management tools, case studies and research on document security were provided by SICPA, a private company providing secured identification, traceability and authentication services; the United States Secret Service, Department of State Diplomatic Security Service and the US Embassy in Bangkok; and Thailand’s Institute of Forensic Medicine.

“We value highly the opportunity to participate in this multi-cultural exchange of views and expertise. Understanding the day-to-day challenges which our law enforcement partners face around the world is crucial for SICPA to provide the best tools to support them in their fight against transnational crime,” said Catherine Fankhauser, SICPA Sales Director ISS – Identity Security Solutions.

INTERPOL media release: https://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2017/N2017-036
TASHKENT, Uzbekistan – Increasing border security in Central Asia was the focus of an INTERPOL training course on detecting fraudulent travel documents.

Bringing together participants from police, immigration and border control agencies, document experts and forensic document examiners from Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, the course provided them with the skills to identify individuals attempting to enter their countries with fake or forged documents.

During the three-day (27 – 29 September) training course, participants took part in classroom and practical exercises on the different methods used by criminals to alter various travel and identity documents.

Topics discussed during the course included document printing techniques, security features, examination methods, identity management at border points and INTERPOL’s role in combating document counterfeiting.

Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Uzbekistan, Colonel Akromkhon Bobokhonov, said: “We recognize the importance of experience and knowledge exchange between international experts, and we support INTERPOL’s efforts to combat transnational organized crime through combating document fraud.”

With fraudulent documents often used by criminals attempting to cross national borders undetected, the training course included a hands-on exercise at the Tashkent international airport using a mobile device to check passports against INTERPOL’s Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database.
Containing more than 76 million records from 175 countries, the SLTD database allows officers at border points to directly query travelers’ documents to determine if they have been reported as lost or stolen.

The training course was organized by INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents unit and the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Uzbekistan. Expert presentations on border management tools, case studies and document security features were provided by SICPA, a private company providing secured identification, traceability and authentication services; and the US Department of State Diplomatic Security Service.

“Our train-the-trainer programme aims at enhancing international cooperation through forensic document examination, strengthening border security and increasing intelligence sharing amongst countries using INTERPOL’s policing capabilities,” said Daniela Djidrovska, Coordinator of INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents unit.

“INTERPOL’s activities to enhance the skills of immigration officers, border control officials and forensic document examiners in Central Asia in detecting fraudulent documents could not be successful without the support of private sector partners such as SICPA,” she added.

*Opening Ceremony with the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Uzbekistan, Colonel Akromkhon Bobokhonov, Together with SICPA and INTERPOL experts, Tashkent (September 2017)*
BEIRUT, Lebanon – The detection of fake and fraudulent travel documents to boost regional border security was the focus of an INTERPOL training course in Lebanon.

The three-day (9-11 October) course gave law enforcement officers from the Middle East and North Africa the skills and knowledge they need to identify individuals attempting to travel with forged documents.

Border control officers, security officials and forensic document examiners all took part in classroom and practical exercises, learning about the methods criminals use to forge and alter travel documents, as well as sharing their own expertise.

Fake documents, like forged passports, are valuable assets for international criminals and terrorists, who can use them to cross through national borders undetected.

“The increasing level of sophistication and quality of fraudulent documents, in particular passports, poses a serious threat to national and international security,” said Daniela Djidrovska, INTERPOL Counterfeit Currency and Security Documents Coordinator.

This training course, organized by INTERPOL’s Counterfeit Currency and Security Document unit, enabled participants to understand document printing techniques, security features, ink analysis and examination methods so they can spot fraudulent documents.

INTERPOL’s support to member countries in identifying and flagging individuals trying to travel using fraudulent documents was highlighted for participants, in particular the use of the INTERPOL Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database and Dial-Doc platform.
With more than 80 million records, the SLTD database enables officers at borders to determine in seconds if a suspect travel document has been reported as lost or stolen. Dial-Doc contains alerts from countries worldwide on newly detected forms of document counterfeiting, allowing officials in any of INTERPOL’s 192 member countries to compare a suspect document with images on the platform to check if it is fake.

The training programme, in partnership with secured identification service provider SICPA, also briefed participants on printing solutions and methods to improve stamp-based identification at border crossings to enhance the security of travel documents and make them harder to forge.

“Protecting the integrity of identity documents requires data sharing and increased cross-border cooperation,” said Dr Catherine Fankhauser from SICPA. “The learner-centered, participatory approach of this training contributes significantly to regional and global security.”

Participants at the training course came from Cyprus, Jordan and Lebanon.
